

Learn the Grammar

Tony and Sue are on their way home from school.

People throw away **too much** rubbish. They **ought to** use **fewer** foam boxes.

They **ought to** recycle bottles and cans, too.



Expressing Obligation: ought to

We use 'ought to' to say what is **the right thing to do**. We do not change the verb form after 'ought to'.

We	ought to	recycle	bottles and cans.
		reuse	plastic bags.

Talking about Quantity: too many / too much

We use 'too many' and 'too much' to show that the amount of something is **more than needed**.

We use 'too many' with **countable nouns** and 'too much' with **uncountable nouns**.

People throw away	too	many	foam boxes.
		much	rubbish.

Talking about Quantity: fewer/less

We use 'fewer' and 'less' to talk about a **smaller amount**.

We use 'fewer' with **countable nouns** and 'less' with **uncountable nouns**.

People ought to use	fewer	foam boxes.
	less	paper.

ought to

Tony's family and their neighbours are having a meeting to talk about environmental protection. Complete what they say with the words in the box.

donate them to people in need


put their rubbish in the bins


put them in the recycling bins

turn them off after use


use public transport more often




1  : Some neighbours turn on their air conditioners even when the weather is cool. They ought to open the windows instead.

2  : Some neighbours drive their cars to work every day. They ought to use public transport more often.

3  : Some neighbours leave their lights on all night. They ought to turn them off after use.

4  : Some neighbours litter the staircase. They ought to put their rubbish in the bins.

5  : Some neighbours throw away their old clothes. They ought to donate them to people in need.

6  : Some neighbours throw away used plastic bottles. They ought to put them in the recycling bins.

too many / too much

Tony is reading a short article about some problems in our environment. Complete the article with the words in the box.

cars

electricity

forests

lights

paper

plastic bags

smoke

trees

water



There is 1. too much rubbish in our city. Restaurants and fast food shops use 2. too many foam boxes to pack takeaways. Some people use 3. too many plastic bags when they go shopping.

There are 4. too many cars on the roads. They give out 5. too much smoke, which makes the air dirty.

People use 6. too much electricity. They turn on their air conditioners in winter and do not switch off their computers even when they are not in use. People use 7. too many lights to decorate their shops and offices.

We cut down 8. too many trees because we use 9. too much paper. As a result, we are destroying 10. too many forests. Now, many animals do not have a proper place to live.

People use 11. too much water. They ought to turn the tap off when brushing their teeth.

fewer/less

Sue is making a poster about environmental protection. Complete the poster with the correct form of the words in the box.

card

foam box

paper

plastic bag

tissue

water

Save our Earth!

1. We ought to cut down fewer trees

We ought to protect the forests.



2. We ought to use fewer tissues

We can use handkerchiefs.



3. We ought to use less paper

We can write on both sides.



4. We ought to buy fewer cards

We can send our greetings through the Internet.



5. We ought to use fewer plastic bags

We can bring our own shopping bags when we go shopping.



6. We ought to use less water

We can take showers instead of baths.



7. We ought to use fewer foam boxes

We can eat in restaurants or at home so that we do not need foam boxes to pack the food.

